

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
March 26, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION: Pastor Joe Meyer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: All members were present.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:

Mr. Hardaway acknowledges the Adrean High School Boys' Basketball Team for taking State this past weekend this is a great accomplishment. Mr. Hardaway said he looks forward to the team coming before the council on April 9th.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated March 26, 2019. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2019. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Minchuk had no report. Mr. Spires said he received an email from Indiana Department of Transportation for two railroad crossing grants that were applied for the following locations 73rd Avenue and Countyline Road and for Whitcomb Street. Mrs. Spires said he was given notification that the grants were approved for both projects

Mr. Spires made a motion to approve the CCG matching grant agreement and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was some discussion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Hardaway made mentioned of pot holes in the town and that they are no reflection of Public Works and that their needs to be a band of cold patch.

Mr. Spires said due to weather conditions the patches have been washed out by rain crews are out daily trying repair all holes. Some discussion followed.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

Ms. LaMarca had no report.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

Mrs. Barron had no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Uzelac had no report. Mr. Hardaway made mentioned of an ordinance that residents are not to park their semi-trucks in their driveways. Mr. Hardaway said this is causing damage to our roads if you see a semi-truck parked in a residential area please report it.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Ms. LaMarca had no report and referred to Ms. Olrich for a report. Ms. Olrich said they are seeking sponsorships for the July 26th Latin Satin Soul Concert. Ms. Olrich said she has now 5 groups that have responded to the Gospel Fest there will be no more than 7 groups performing at the fest. Ms. Olrich said the Impact Fee Committee met for the first time and went through the demographics of the town the next meeting is scheduled for April 18th. Ms. Olrich said as part of the Master Plan the engineer needed a Park Committee which consists of LaMarca, Barron and Uzelac which will be meeting on April 23rd prior the town council meeting hoping everyone is able to make it at 5:30 p.m. Ms. Olrich said they are planning Arbor Day with 4th graders at Aquinas School on Friday April 26th.

Mrs. Barron made a motion to have the town attorney negotiate park property located on 8600 and Taft Street and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:

Mr. Barron had no report.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Mrs. Uzelac said the Election will be held on May 7th the County is offering early voting in addition to absentee ballots available.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Pettit said there is a Redevelopment Commission Workshop tonight after the town council meeting.

UTILITY LIAISON:

Mr. Spann had no report.

ABANDONED PROPERTIES:

Mr. Hardaway had no report.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 19-10:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the 2018 GO Bond fund for the year 2019 not included in the current budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 19-11:

An Ordinance establishing public meeting parliamentary procedures, parameters for the public comment portion of the town public meetings, and all matters related thereto. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Mrs. Barron made a motion that the council suspend the rules and read Ordinance 19-11 on second reading he was seconded by Mr. Spann. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Ord. 19-12:

An Ordinance amending town code section 6-21 entitled "Building Codes-Permits", or parts thereof, in conflict herewith. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Mr. Pettit made a motion that the council suspend the rules and read Ordinance 19-12 on second reading he was seconded by Mrs. Barron. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 19-07:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Local User Fee fund of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana for the year 2019 not included in the current budget. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 19-08:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, creating budget line items within the Police Department Special Grant Fund Budget. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 19-09:

An Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 14-27, being "An Ordinance establishing/amending the renewal dates for the Town Business License and Hazardous Materials Registration and Authorizing the Clerk-Treasurer to bill and collect the annual business license fee, hazardous materials registration fee and alarm permit fee at the same time", and repealing all town code sections and ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

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RESOLUTIONS:

None

BZA ACTIONS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer’s Office at Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, March 27, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Abandoned Blighted Properties Commission meeting March 28, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.

Stormwater Management Board meeting, April 2, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

Plan Commission Workshop meeting, April 2, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Police Commission meeting, April 4, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

Executive Session meeting, April 9, 2019 at 5:15 p.m.

Town Council meeting, April 9, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Mrs. Barron made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Pettit.

Richard Hardaway, President

Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer